

MONTANA

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

2004



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU
WORKFORCE SERVICES DIVISION
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

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Montana Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2004

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Introduction

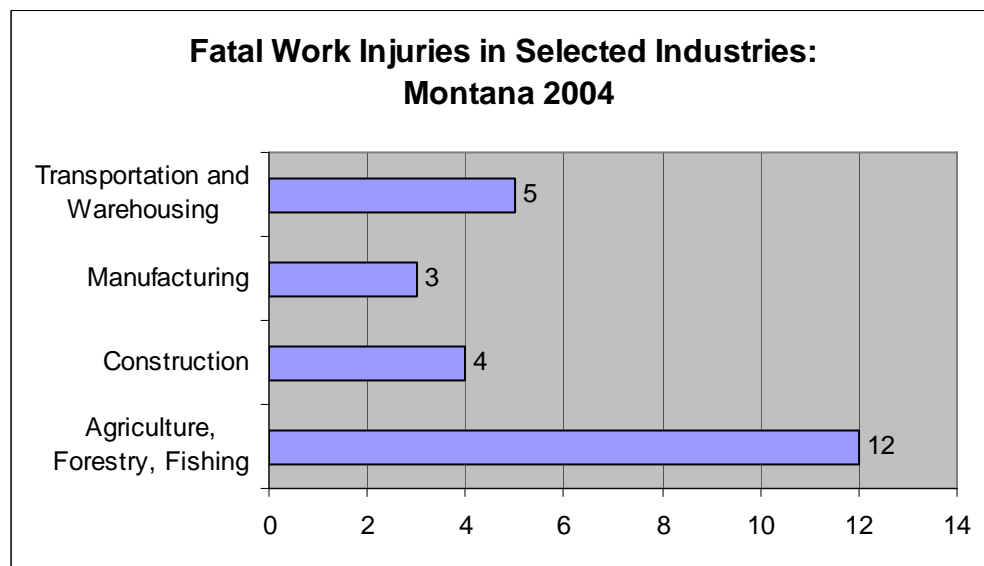
Thousands of workers in Montana are injured each year in work-related accidents. Some of these result in death. Many of the accidents could have been avoided if the employers and employees involved took proper safety measures to prevent them.

This report provides information gathered by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program, Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, on fatal occupational accidents that occurred in Montana during 2004. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, and Title 29, Part 1904 of the Code of Federal Regulations state:

Within 8 hours after the occurrence of an employment accident which is fatal to one or more employees, or which results in hospitalization of three or more employees, the employer of any employees so injured or killed shall report the accident either orally or in writing to the nearest office of the Area Director of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. The reporting may be by telephone. The report shall relate the circumstances of the accident, the number of fatalities, and the extent of any injuries. The Area Director may require such additional reports in writing or otherwise, as they deem necessary, concerning the accident.

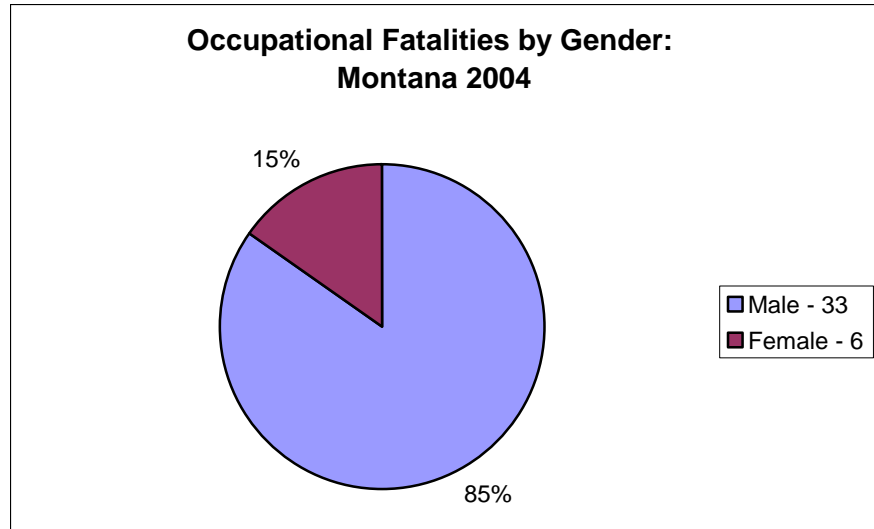
Summary

Overall, there were a total of 39 job-related fatalities in Montana in 2004. The following chart shows Occupational Fatalities by Industry.

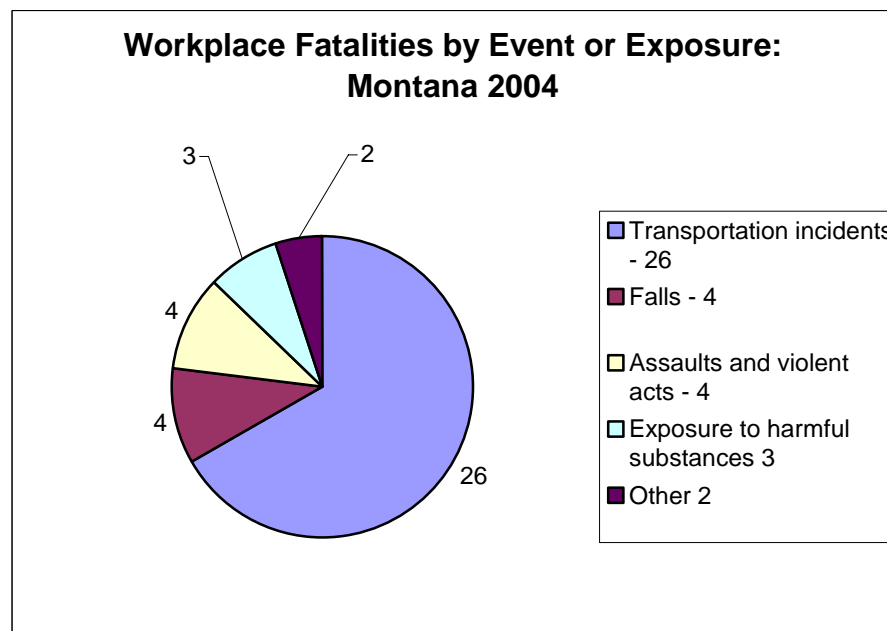


Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39

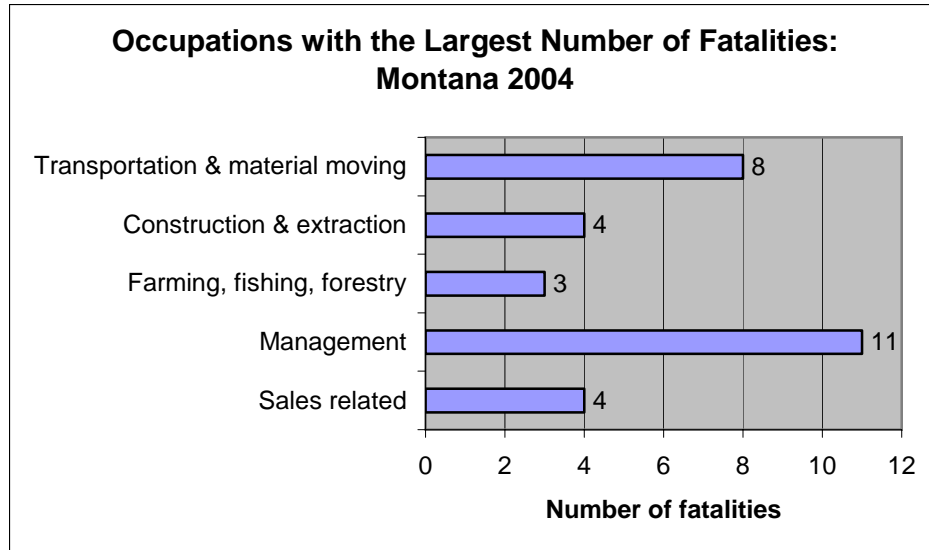
Totals include data for Fatalities by Industry not shown separately, that do not meet publication criteria.



Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39

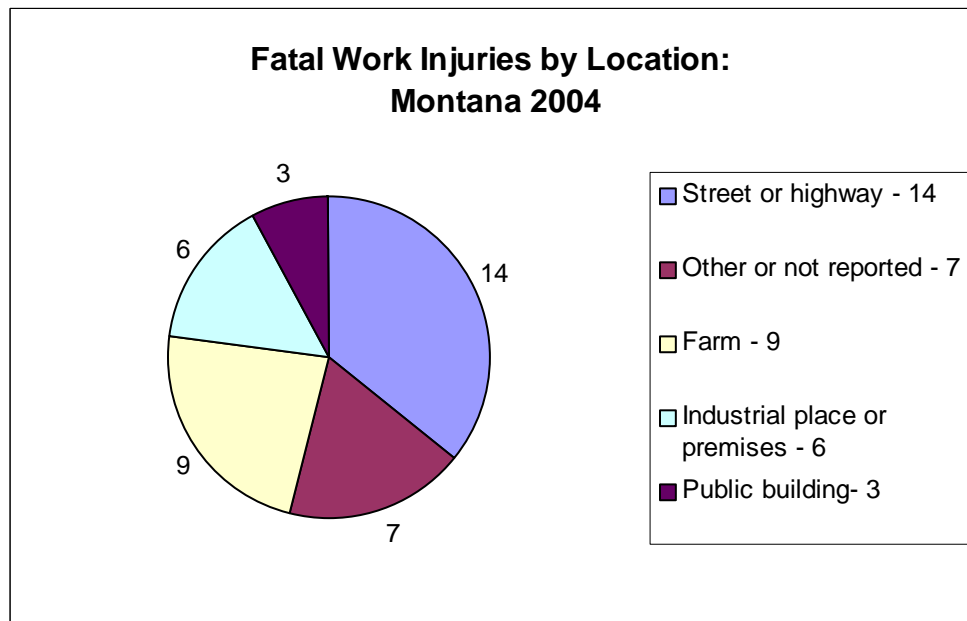


Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39

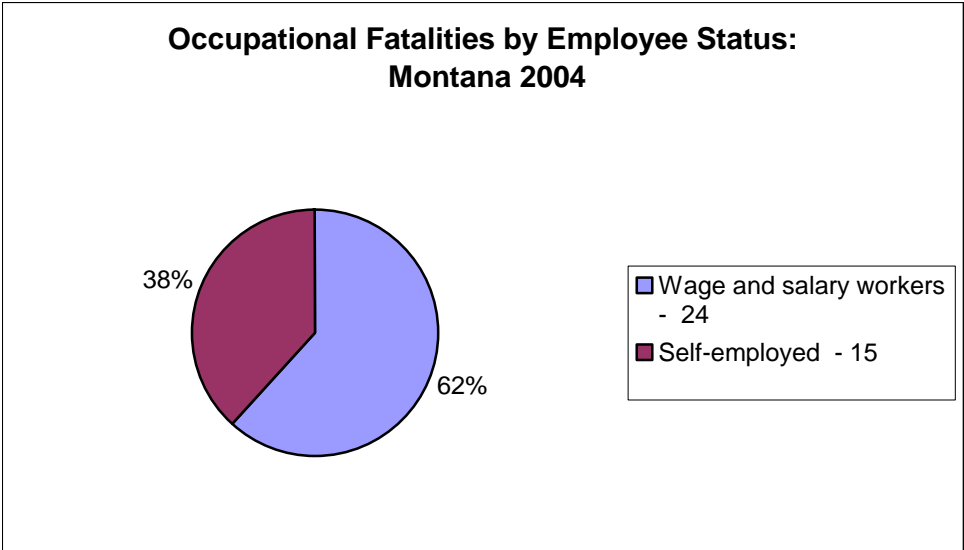


Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39

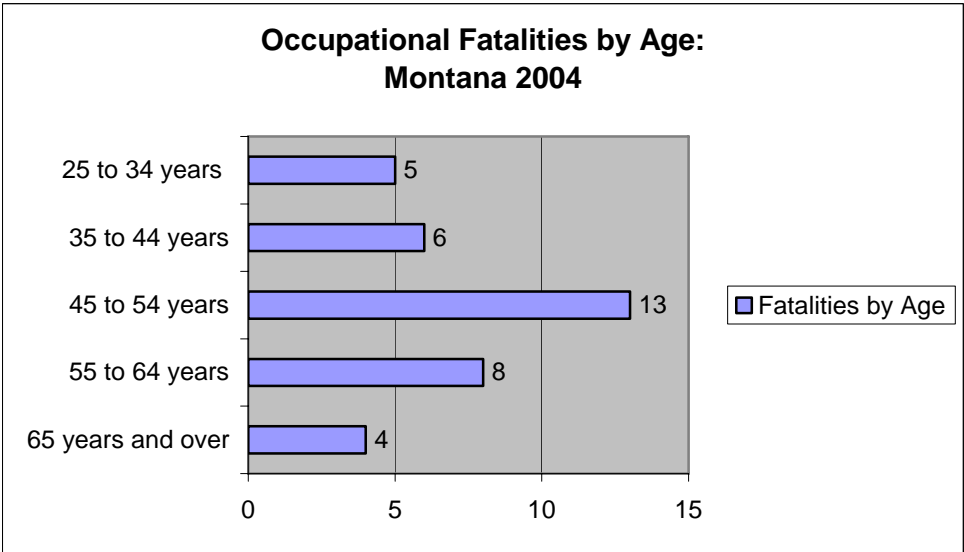
Totals include data for Occupations not shown separately, that do not meet publication criteria.



Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39



Total number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39



Total Number of Fatalities in 2004 – 39

Totals include data for Age not shown separately, that do not meet publication criteria.

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TABLE A-1. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Montana, 2004

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
			Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total		39	26	4	--	4	3	--
Private Industry		34	21	4	--	4	3	--
Goods Producing		21	11	--	--	--	3	--
Natural Resources and Mining		14	9	--	--	--	--	--
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	12	7	--	--	--	--	--
Animal Production.....	112	11	6	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	1121	10	5	--	--	--	--	--
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming, including Feedlots.....	11211	10	5	--	--	--	--	--
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	112111	10	5	--	--	--	--	--
Construction		4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction	23	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing		3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	31-33	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Service providing		13	10	--	--	--	--	--

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE A-1. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Montana, 2004 - continued

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
			Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	48-49	6	6	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and Warehousing		5	5	--	--	--	--	--
Government ⁶		5	5	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

⁵ Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

⁶ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

TABLE A-2. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides, Montana, 2004

Industry ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transportation incidents					Homicides		
		Total	Highway incidents	Non-highway incidents	Worker struck by vehicle	All other transportation incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides
Total	39	26	13	5	--	6	--	--	--
Private Industry	34	21	12	5	--	--	--	--	--
Goods Producing	21	11	6	5	--	--	--	--	--
Natural Resources and Mining	14	9	4	5	--	--	--	--	--
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	12	7	--	5	--	--	--	--	--
Animal Production.....	11	6	--	4	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	10	5	--	3	--	--	--	--	--
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming, including Feedlots.....	10	5	--	3	--	--	--	--	--
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	10	5	--	3	--	--	--	--	--
Construction	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Service providing	13	10	6	--	--	--	--	--	--

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE A-2. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides, Montana, 2004 - continued

Industry ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transportation incidents					Homicides		
		Total	Highway incidents	Non-highway Incidents	Worker struck by vehicle	All other transportation incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6	6	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and Warehousing	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Government ³	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

³ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-3. Fatal occupational injuries to private sector wage and salary workers, government workers, and self-employed workers by industry, Montana, 2004

Industry ¹	Fatalities		Private sector wage and salary workers ²		Government workers ³		Self-employed workers ⁴	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	39	100.0	19	100.0	5	100.0	15	100.0
Goods Producing	22	56.4	9	47.4	--	--	12	80.0
Natural Resources and Mining	14	35.9	3	15.8	--	--	11	73.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	12	30.8	--	--	--	--	10	66.7
Animal Production.....	11	28.2	--	--	--	--	10	66.7
Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	10	25.6	--	--	--	--	9	60.0
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming, including Feedlots.....	10	25.6	--	--	--	--	9	60.0
Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	10	25.6	--	--	--	--	9	60.0
Construction	5	12.8	4	21.1	--	--	--	--
Construction	5	12.8	4	21.1	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	3	7.7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	3	7.7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Service providing	17	43.6	10	52.6	--	--	3	20.0
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6	15.4	5	26.3	--	--	--	--
Transportation and Warehousing	5	12.8	4	21.1	--	--	--	--

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

³ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

⁴ Includes self-employed workers, owners of unincorporated businesses and farms, paid and unpaid family workers, and may include some owners of incorporated businesses or members of partnerships.

⁵ Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-4. Fatal occupational injuries by primary and secondary source of injury by major private industry ¹ sector, Montana, 2004

Primary source and secondary source	Total fatalities (number)	Goods producing				Service providing							
		Total goods producing	Natural resources and mining ²	Construc- tion	Manufac- turing	Total service providing	Trade, transpor- tation, and utilities	Informa- tion	Financial activities	Profes- sional and business services	Education and health services	Leisure and hospitality	Other services
Total.....	39	21	14	4	3	13	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Primary Source³													
Chemicals and chemical products.....	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Vehicles.....	25	10	8	--	--	10	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Highway vehicle, motorized.....	16	6	4	--	--	7	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Automobile.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Truck.....	12	6	4	--	--	5	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pickup truck.....	5	4	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Semitrailer, tractor trailer, trailer truck.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Truck, n.e.c.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Offroad vehicle, nonindustrial.....	3	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All terrain vehicle (ATV).....	3	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other sources.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ammunition.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bullets.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Secondary Source⁴													

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE A-4. Fatal occupational injuries by primary and secondary source of injury by major private industry ¹ sector, Montana, 2004 - continued

Primary source and secondary source	Total fatalities (number)	Goods producing				Service providing							
		Total goods producing	Natural resources and mining ²	Construction	Manufacturing	Total service providing	Trade, transportation, and utilities	Information	Financial activities	Professional and business services	Education and health services	Leisure and hospitality	Other services
Structures and surfaces.....	11	5	--	--	--	4	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces.....	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ground.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Structures.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other structures.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Vehicles.....	6	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Highway vehicle, motorized.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Truck.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

³ The primary source of injury identifies the object, substance, or exposure that directly produced or inflicted the injury. For most transportation incidents, the primary source identifies the vehicle in which the deceased was an occupant. For most falls, the primary source identifies the surface or object contacted.

⁴ The secondary source of injury, if any, identifies the object, substance, or person that generated the source of injury or that contributed to the event or exposure. For vehicle collisions, the deceased's vehicle is the primary source and the other object (truck, road divider, etc.) is the secondary source.

For most homicides, the "bullet" is the primary source and the "perpetrator" is the secondary source. For most falls, the secondary source identifies the equipment or surface from which the worker fell.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-5. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Montana, 2004

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
		Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total.....	39	26	4	--	4	3	--
Management occupations.....	11	8	--	--	--	--	--
Other management occupations.....	9	6	--	--	--	--	--
Agricultural managers.....	9	6	--	--	--	--	--
Farmers and ranchers.....	9	6	--	--	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction trades workers.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	8	8	--	--	--	--	--
Motor vehicle operators.....	5	5	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers.....	5	5	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.....	5	5	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-6. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides by occupation, Montana, 2004

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transportation incidents					Homicides		
		Total	Highway incidents	Non-highway incidents	Worker struck by vehicle	All other transportation incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides
Total.....	39	26	13	5	--	6	--	--	--
Management occupations.....	11	8	4	4	--	--	--	--	--
Other management occupations.....	9	6	--	4	--	--	--	--	--
Agricultural managers.....	9	6	--	4	--	--	--	--	--
Farmers and ranchers.....	9	6	--	4	--	--	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction trades workers.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	8	8	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Motor vehicle operators.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Table A-7. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Montana, 2004

Worker characteristics	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ¹					
		Transportation incidents ²	Assaults and violent acts ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions
Total.....	39	26	4	--	4	3	--
Employee Status							
Wage and Salary Workers ⁴	24	18	--	--	--	--	--
Self-employed ⁵	15	8	3	--	--	--	--
Sex							
Men.....	33	23	3	--	--	--	--
Women.....	6	3	--	--	--	--	--
Age							
Under 16 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
16 to 17 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
18 to 19 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
20 to 24 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
25 to 34 years.....	5	4	--	--	--	--	--
35 to 44 years.....	6	3	--	--	--	--	--
45 to 54 years.....	13	11	--	--	--	--	--
55 to 64 years.....	8	5	--	--	--	--	--
65 years and over.....	4	3	--	--	--	--	--
Race or Ethnic Origin⁶							
White, non-Hispanic.....	38	25	4	--	4	3	--
Black, non-Hispanic.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hispanic or Latino.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

² Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

³ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

⁴ May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

⁵ Includes self-employed workers, owners of unincorporated businesses and farms, paid and unpaid family workers, and may include some owners of incorporated businesses or members of partnerships.

⁶ Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race

categories shown exclude data for Hispanics and Latinos.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-8. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and age, Montana, 2004

Event or exposure ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Age								
		Under 16 years	16-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over
Total.....	39	--	--	--	--	5	6	13	8	4
Falls.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Exposure to harmful substances or environments.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation accidents.....	26	--	--	--	--	4	3	11	5	3
Highway accident.....	13	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	--
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Noncollision accident.....	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--	--
Jack-knifed or overturned--no collision.....	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--
Nonhighway accident, except rail, air, water.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Noncollision accident.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Overturned.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Assaults and violent acts.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Self-inflicted injury.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Suicide, attempted suicide.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

elsewhere classified." Data for 2004 are preliminary.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. n.e.c. means "not

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

TABLE A-9. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry ¹ sector, Montana, 2004

Event or exposure ²	Total fatalities (number)	Goods producing				Service providing							
		Total goods producing	Natural resources and mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Total service providing	Trade, transportation, and utilities	Information	Financial activities	Professional and business services	Education and health services	Leisure and hospitality	Other services
Total.....	39	21	14	4	3	13	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Falls.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Exposure to harmful substances or environments.....	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances.....	3	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation accidents.....	26	11	9	--	--	10	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Highway accident.....	13	6	4	--	--	6	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Noncollision accident.....	8	3	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Jack-knifed or overturned--no collision.....	7	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nonhighway accident, except rail, air, water.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Noncollision accident.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Overturned.....	5	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Assaults and violent acts.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Self-inflicted injury.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Suicide, attempted suicide.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Data for 2004 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Appendix B—Background of the Program

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) Program, provides the most complete count of fatal work injuries available because it uses diverse state and federal data sources to identify, verify, and profile fatal work injuries. Information about each workplace fatality (occupation and other worker characteristics, equipment being used, and circumstances of the event) is obtained by cross-referencing source documents, such as death certificates, workers' compensation records, and reports to federal and state agencies. This method assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

The fatality census is a federal/state cooperative program, which is conducted in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In Montana, the Research and Analysis Bureau of the Montana Department of Labor and Industry collects the data in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Another BLS program, the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, profiles worker and case characteristics of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses that result in lost work time, and presents frequency counts and incidence rates by industry. Copies of the 2003 Montana report on nonfatal injuries and illnesses are available from the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry by calling (800) 541-3904. For additional labor market information, access the Montana Department of Labor's Research & Analysis Bureau website at www.ourfactsyourfuture.org.

National data on occupational injuries and fatalities can be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics by calling (202) 606-6179. For additional national data, access the BLS Internet site at <http://www.bls.gov/osshome.htm>.

Appendix C—Technical Notes

Definitions

For a fatality to be included in the census, the decedent must have been employed (that is working for pay, compensation, or profit) at the time of the event, engaged in a legal work activity, or present at the site of the incident as a requirement of his or her job. These criteria are generally broader than those used by federal and state agencies administering specific laws and regulations. (Fatalities that occur during a person's commute to or from work are excluded from the census counts.)

Data presented in this release include deaths occurring in 2004 that resulted from traumatic occupational injuries. An injury is defined as any intentional or unintentional wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy, such as heat, electricity, or kinetic energy from a crash or from the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event, incident, or series of events within a single workday or shift. Included are open wounds, intracranial and internal injuries, heatstroke, hypothermia, asphyxiations, acute poisonings resulting from short-term exposures limited to the worker's shift, suicides and homicides, and work injuries listed as underlying or contributory causes of death.

Information on work-related fatal illnesses are not reported in the BLS census and are excluded from the attached tables because the latency period of many occupational illnesses and the difficulty of linking illnesses to work make identification of a universe problematic.

Measurement techniques and limitations

Data for the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries are compiled from various federal, state, and local administrative sources, including death certificates, workers' compensation reports and claims, reports to various regulatory agencies, medical examiner reports, and police reports, as well as news reports. Diverse sources are used because studies have shown that no single source captures all job-related fatalities. Source documents are matched so that each fatality is counted only once. To ensure that a fatality occurred while the decedent was at work, information is verified from two or more independent source documents or from a source document and a follow-up questionnaire. Approximately 30 data elements are collected, coded, and tabulated, including information about the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved.

Identification and verification of work-related fatalities

Because some state laws and regulations prohibit enumerators from contacting the next of kin, it was not possible to independently verify work relationship (whether a fatality is job related) for some fatal work injuries in 2004; however, the information on the initiating source document for these cases was sufficient to determine that the incident was likely to be job related. Data for these fatalities, which primarily affected self-employed workers, are included in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries counts. A few fatalities were not included because the initiating source document had insufficient information to determine work relationship, which could not be verified by either an independent source document or a follow-up questionnaire.

States may identify additional fatal work injuries after data collection closeout for a reference year. In addition, other fatalities excluded from the published count because of insufficient information to determine work relationship may subsequently be verified as work related. States have up to one year to update their initial published state counts. This procedure ensures that fatality data are disseminated as quickly as possible and that no legitimate case is excluded from the counts. Thus, each year's report should be considered preliminary until the next year's data are issued. Increases in the published counts of national data based on additional information have averaged fewer than 100 fatalities per year or less than 1.5 percent of the total.

Federal/State agency coverage

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether they are covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other federal or state agencies or are outside the scope of regulatory coverage. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and those released by other agencies should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions being used.

Several federal and state agencies have jurisdiction over workplace safety and health. OSHA and affiliated agencies in states with approved safety programs cover the largest portion of America's workers. However, injuries and illnesses occurring in certain industries or activities such as coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and highway, water, rail, and air transportation are excluded from OSHA coverage because they are covered by other federal agencies, such as the Mine Safety and Health Administration and various agencies within the Department of Transportation.

Fatalities occurring among several other groups of workers are generally not covered by any federal or state agencies. These groups include self-employed and unpaid family workers, laborers on small farms, and state and local government employees in states without OSHA approved safety programs. (Approximately one-half of the states have approved OSHA safety programs, which cover state and local government employees.)